



## Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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March 5, 2004

TO: District Test Coordinators

FROM: Walt Brown, Director of Assessment

SUBJECT: New NCLB Provisions Regarding LEP Students

### New Provisions

On February 20, 2004, the U.S. Department of Education issued new *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) provisions concerning Limited English Proficient (LEP) students' participation in state assessments. These new provisions offer increased options in testing first-year LEP students, increased flexibility in the administration of the MAP, and some additional latitude in the reporting of scores for AYP purposes. The new provisions are explained below, along with instructions for completing the Student Information Form (SIF), the Student Information Sheet (SIS), and the Special Codes grid to identify first-year LEP students and specify accommodations used for all LEP students. Because assessment changes occurred after MAP materials were printed, the MAP materials do not contain fields specific to the new data needs. Therefore, it is extremely important that you follow the data-reporting instructions included in this letter for the 2004 MAP administration. *Note: This new NCLB provision does not preclude or exempt an LEP student from participation in the MAC II English-language-acquisition assessment.*

### Testing and Reporting Flexibility

You have the **option** of administering the MAP **communication arts assessments** to LEP students who have been in the U.S. for less than one calendar year at the time MAP assessments are given. If these students do not participate in the test, you should still complete an SIF for each student. As long as the SIFs are completed correctly, first-year LEP students who do not participate in the MAP communication arts assessment will not be counted as "Level Not Determined" (LND). Furthermore, first-year LEP students who participate in the communication arts assessments will not be included in AYP reporting as long as the SISs, and pre-coded SIFs, are completed correctly.

All LEP students are **required** to take the MAP **mathematics assessments**. However, the scores of LEP students who have been in the U.S. for less than one calendar year will not be included in AYP reporting as long as the SISs, and pre-coded SIFs, are completed correctly.

### **Student Status Bubbles**

For the **mathematics** and **communication arts** assessments, you should mark the following Student Status bubbles on the SIFs/SISs of first-year LEP students:

- LEP 1st - 3rd year
- In district less than 1 year
- In building less than 1 year
- LEP (Receiving Services) **OR**  
LEP (Not Receiving Services)

### **Accommodations**

Federal provisions now allow district staff the flexibility to read the **mathematics**, **social studies**, and **science** assessments to LEP students in their native languages. In addition, for these same assessments, LEP students can now give their responses orally in their native languages. If students use the oral reading and oral response accommodations, the Special Codes grid should reflect administration accommodation “04” and response accommodation “33” respectively. It is important to remember that for scoring purposes all students’ responses must be written in or transcribed into English. Although these accommodations are available to any LEP student, we expect your district staff to use their professional discretion to determine which LEP students require these accommodations.

### **MAP School Building Survey**

You must account for all enrolled students at a particular grade level on the MAP School Building Survey. Because there is no specific category to indicate the LEP students who do not participate in the communication arts assessments, you should include this information under the column labeled MAP Alternate. In other words, the MAP Alternate column should include the total number of students who did not take the communication arts assessment because they were either included in the MAP-A assessment or excluded from the regular assessment because of their first-year LEP status.

### **Contact Information**

We recognize the complexity of the new assessment changes and the importance of appropriate testing and reporting procedures. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Assessment section at 800/845-3545.